TEMPLATE LETTER – Please place on hospital stationary and add your specific details and examples

May XX, 2020

Transmitted Electronically

Dear Representative/Senator:

On behalf of our XXX employees, our patients, and our community, HOSPITAL NAME appreciates the hard work you have done to help protect Californians during this pandemic. This unprecedented public health emergency requires unprecedented actions, and we write with both gratitude and a request for additional assistance.

At HOSPITAL NAME, like others around the nation we have worked tirelessly to prepare and adapt to care for COVID-19 patients. As we work to support our nurses, doctors, and other health care heroes, we have purchased supplies, retrained employees, and reorganized our facility to ensure we are ready to serve our community. Many of these supplies are hard to find and, when we do find them, they command as much as 10 times the normal price and shipping costs. We have built surge space, tracked down testing kits, worked to secure medications and other supplies to care for the critically ill. The investments we have made are extraordinary. SPECIFIC EXAMPLES.

In addition to our efforts and expense to prepare, we stopped performing any non-essential services. These services are a significant portion of our normal revenue, and we are now in a financial as well as a health crisis. We do not expect that revenue to return: babies born at home in April will not be born in the hospital in September; a knee replacement scheduled for March could be rescheduled for October, but it will only displace another procedure. As we maintain proper health and safety protocols of distancing and sanitizing, as well as surge capacity, we simply will not be able to increase our schedule to recoup the losses we have incurred.

Congress has acted swiftly to establish and fund the Public Health and Social Services Emergency Fund, and we are grateful. However, the first few distributions have been based on formulas that do not offer appropriate recognition of the investments we have made or the lost revenue we have incurred. In fact, we have only received $XXX and estimate our investment and lost revenue to be more than $XXXX. California health care providers rank 46th in the nation for per capita allocation of the funds distributed so far.

As you work on additional relief for our country, please keep in mind that successful reopening of the economy will depend on the security of the health care safety net provided by hospitals like HOSPITAL NAME. Hospitals around the state and nation are suffering dramatic financial losses that threaten our hospital, the health care infrastructure, and access to care; they must be prioritized in the distribution of funds to ensure their services remain available.

ADD ADDITIONAL COMMENTS on other priorities outlined in CHA’s letter to the delegation: GME, 340B, liability protections, etc.

Thank you again for your commitment to HOSPITAL NAME and our patients.

Sincerely,

NAME, TITLE, CONTACT INFORMATION